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WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:
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Art Unit 1632

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
 Appl. No. 09/986,750; Filed: November 9, 2001
 For: **Method for Removing a Universal Linker from an
 Oligonucleotide**
 Inventors: Pires *et al.*
 Our Ref: 0942.5080001/RWE/FRC

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement;
2. Listing of the cited documents on Form PTO-1449 (2 sheets);
3. A copy of each of the two (2) cited documents on Form PTO-1449; and
4. Return postcard.

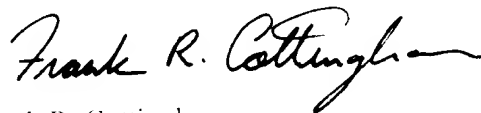
It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
May 31, 2002
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Frank R. Cottingham".

Frank R. Cottingham
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 50.437

FRC/ped
Enclosures

SKGF DC118883.1



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In re application of:

PIRES *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/986,750

Filing Date: November 9, 2001

For: **Method for Removing a
Universal Linker From an
Oligonucleotide**

Confirmation No. 5957

Art Unit: 1632

Examiner: *To be assigned*

Atty. Docket: 0942.5080001/RWE/FRC

Information Disclosure Statement

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. A copy of each of these documents is provided.

The Examiner is referred to related, co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/245,023, filed February 5, 1999, inventors Schuette *et al.*, submitted herewith as Document **AS3**.

The identification of this U.S. Patent Application is not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to this application now or upon issuance of the present application as a patent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the cited application and the art cited therein during examination.

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the

information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates

should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith.

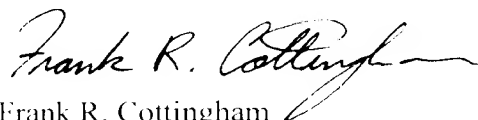
It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and to indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No statement or fee is required.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Frank R. Cottingham
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 50,437

Date: MAY 1, 2002

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.

MAY 1 2002

SKG: DCL45071

EXAMINER: I have reviewed the report of the investigation conducted by the FBI on the above-captioned matter. The results of the investigation are as follows:

MAY 03
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Page 2 of 3

FORM PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 0942.5030001/RWE/EPG	APPLICATION NO. 09/986,750
	APPLICANT Fires et al.	
	FILING DATE November 9, 2001	GROUP 1632

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION
	AL						Yes No
	AM						Yes No
	AN						Yes No
	AO						Yes No
	AP						Yes No

OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AR	2	Lyttle, M.H. et al., "A Phosphate Bound Universal Linker for DNA Synthesis," Nucleosides & Nucleotides 18:1809-1824, Marcel Dekker, Inc. (August 1999).
	AS	2	Neilsen, R.D. et al., "BamBlox" Universal Link: A Versatile Linker Support for Oligonucleotide Synthesis," BioTechniques 22:752-756, Eaton Publishing Company (1997).
			Burn, J.L., "Chapter 11: Oligonucleotides with reporter groups attached to the 5' end," in: Oligonucleotides and Antisense: A Practical Approach, Fekstein, F.

EXAMINER: [Signature] [Name] [Title] [Address] [City] [State] [Zip] [Phone] [Fax] [E-mail] [Date] [Initials] [Comments]



FORM PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

ATTY. DOCKET NO.
0942.5080001/RWE/ERCAPPLICATION NO.
09/986,750APPLICANT
Pires et al.FILING DATE
November 9, 2001GROUP
1632

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION
	AL						Yes No
	AM						Yes No
	AN						Yes No
	AO						Yes No
	AP						Yes No

OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AP	3	Sinha, N.D. and Striepeke, S., "Chapter 8: Oligonucleotides with reporter groups attached to the 5'-terminus," in <i>Oligonucleotides and Analogues: A Practical Approach</i> , Eckstein, F. ed., IRL Press at Oxford University Press, Oxford, pp. 185-212 (1991).
	AS	3	United States Non-Provisional Application No. 09/245,023, Schuette et al., filed February 5, 1999.

EXAMINER: [Signature] [Name] [Title] [Address] [City] [State] [Zip] [Phone] [Fax] [E-mail] [Web] [Other] [Comments]